Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Honors Humanities

Independent Reading List

Each semester you will choose a book from a writer of another country other than the United States. The reason for this is to provide you with a reading experience that is varied from the usual material you might read. *Do NOT choose a book you have previously read for pleasure or for another class.* You may choose a book not from this list, but it must be approved by me in advance.

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| **Country of Origin** | **Author** | **Title** |
| **Africa** |  |  |
| Algeria | Albert Camus  Tahar Djaout | *The Plague*  *The Stranger*  *The Last Summer of Reason* |
| Angola | Alice Wellman | *The Wilderness Has Ears* |
| \*Egypt | Naguib Mahfouz  Sabri Moussa | *Palace Walk*  *Palace of Desire*  *Sugar Street*  *The Beggar*  *Seeds of Corruption* |
| Kenya | Ngugi wa Thiong’o | *Weep Not, Child*  *The River Between* |
| Morocco | Tahar Ben Jallou | *The Sacred River* |
| Nigeria | Chinua Achebe  Buchi Emecheta | *Things Fall Apart*  *The Bride Price* |
| South Africa | Andre Brink  Mark Mathabane  Alan Paton | *A Chain of Voices*  *An Act of Terror*  *Kaffir Boy*  *Cry, the Beloved Country* |
| **Asia** |  |  |
| Cambodia | Luong Ung | *First They Killed My Father* |
| China | Pearl Buck  Ji-Li Jiang  Adeline Yen Mah | *The Good Earth*  *The Red Scarf Girl*  *Chinese Cinderella* |

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| India | Mulk Raj Anand  Anita Rau Badami  Attia Hosain  Arundhati Roy | *Untouchables*  *The Hero’s Walk*  *Sunlight on a Broken Column*  *The God of Small Things* |
| \*Iran | Anahita Firouz | *In the Walled Gardens* |
| \*Iraq | Naim Kattan | *Farewell Babylon* |
| Japan | Yukio Mishima | *Temple of the Golden Pavilion*  *Confessions of a Mask* |
| Lebanon | Hanan al-Shaykh  Tawfiq Awwad | *Women of Sand and Myrrh*  *Death in Beirut* |
| Pakistan | Bapsi Sidhwa | *American Brat*  *Cracking India* |
| Syria | Rafik Schami | *A Hand Full of Stars* |
| Yemen | Zayd Mutee Dammaj | *The Hostage* |
| **Europe** |  |  |
| \*France | Alexandre Dumas  Gustave Flaubert  Moliere  Voltaire | *The Three Musketeers*  *Madame Bovary*  *The Misanthrope*  *Candide* |
| Germany | Herman Hesse  Franz Kafka  Erich Remarque | *Siddhartha*  *Metamorphosis*  *All Quiet on the Western Front* |
| \*Greece | Aeschylus  Plato  The History of the Peloponnesian War | *The Oresteia*  *The Republic*  *Thucydides* |
| Ireland | Oscar Wilde  James Joyce | *The Picture of Dorian Gray*  *Ulysses* |
| \*Italy | Umberto Ecco  Marcus Aurelius  Machiavelli | *Focault’s Pendulum*  *The Meditations*  *The Prince* |

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| \*Turkey | Adalet Agaoglu  Yasar Kemal | *Curfew*  *They Burn the Thistles* |
| **North/South America** |  |  |
| Brazil | Paulo Coelho | *The Alchemist* |
| Mexico | Isabel Allende  Laura Esquivel | *House of Spirits*  *Daughter of Fortune*  *Like Water for Chocolate* |

\*Indicates a mandatory country selection. This means that of your two novel selections for the year you must select one of them from the countries denoted with an asterisk.

**Thinking Through Your Novels**

As you read your two novel selections, you should consider how your novel answers the course’s essential question:

***What inherent human characteristics span time and culture?***

In order to answer the course question, you should think about, compare/contrast, and apply the course objectives to your reading. What does each of your novels say about human nature, human roles and behavior, and human ideals?

* **To understand human nature**
  + The aspects of human nature-physical, psychological, social, aesthetic, spiritual-are complex and interrelated. Studying the basic foundations of human nature offers significant ways to better understand the human condition.
* **To understand human roles and behavior**
  + While members of the human family may share the same nature and aspire to the same ideals, they play different roles and exhibit varied behavior. Examining ways individuals explore, think, lead, and create offers opportunities for better understanding the diversity of human nature.
* **To understand human ideals**
  + Humans seek perfection, despite being unattainable. The urge to achieve harmony through the pursuit of truth, love, justice, and beauty exists in all societies and is manifested in their art and artifacts.

**Assessing Your Novels**

For each of your novels, you have five postings to complete on your individual wiki within our class wiki. Divide your novel into five sections; each section will be equivalent to one posting. Within each of the postings, you are to comment in the following manner:

* Summary: What is this part of the book about?
* Analysis: What do you think about this part of the book?
* Application: How does this part of the book apply to the course essential question and objectives?

Please see the wiki for more details and a rubric.